



# Muskets & Broadsword

Orange County Chapter Sons of the American Revolution

June 2007

Editor Jim Blauer

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## MEETING INFORMATION

When: June 9, 2007

Where: The Sizzler Restaurant  
1401 North Harbor Blvd.  
Fullerton, CA

Time: Set up and Social begins at 11:00am

Meeting: Called to Order at 11:30am

Website: [www.orangecountysar.org](http://www.orangecountysar.org)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

At last, summer is about here when schools let out & summer vacations begin & the heat turns up. Let me first say that for those who missed the May meeting & luncheon, you did just that-you missed out. Shauna Fleming was a wonderful speaker & even more she is an amazing patriot. It was clear that her character was instilled by her parents & their commitment to service as they have volunteered for several years serving dinners & more to our troops. They're quite a family & I expect to see much more of Shauna in the years ahead. Her efforts to send one million letters of thanks to our troops has now exceeded three million and still going strong. Yet she is still only 17 years old.

We have already begun to deliver & present JROTC medals to the surrounding High Schools in our area. All of the schools we have historically serviced have responded and all are being covered. I wish to thank Jim Oakes as he has stepped up to do several of these JROTC presentations & his efforts are much appreciated.

Here are a few dates to remember for the month of June such as: June 14th 1775 when congress established the Continental Army & the very next day appointed George Washington as General & Commander in Chief over it. He formally accepted the role on the 17th. The same day the first major battle between the British & patriots is fought at Bunker Hill. The British won but paid an astounding price which stunned the redcoats. On June 14th 1777 Congress adopts the Stars & Stripes Flag composed of thirteen stars & thirteen stripes, one for each of the original states as the American flag. June 18th 1778 Washington's army departs from Valley Forge, Pa. ending a difficult & discour-

aging winter encampment. Our own Jim Blauer's ancestor, Sylvanus Ames, endured Valley Forge but did not quite survive it dying about a month before they broke camp. June 20th congress adopts the Great Seal of the United States. Then on June 16th mutinous soldiers demanding back pay, marched on Philadelphia, sending Congress fleeing to Princeton, N.J. One of the not so glorious moments in our early nation's history. The South Coast Chapter has extended an invitation to join them in manning the SAR/DAR booth at the Orange County Fair this July. Check later in this newsletter for available time slots. We need to sign up soon as both the DAR & South Coast are still signing up and these will fill quickly. This is our chance & several have pressed for this for some time so we need to step up and fill at least a couple of these time slots.

I will be unable to be present at the June meeting due to a work related project, so Hugh as the most recent past president has gracefully consented to fill in for me.

We have had a number of inquiries regarding membership in our chapter and that's very encouraging and good for our chapter's health & the SAR in general. Our chapter registrar Col. Quinnelly is staying busy working with these prospective members in moving these applications along in the process. Lastly again, I encourage all members who can, to attend our June 9th luncheon & meeting, to do so as our speaker is Bruce Sievers who has proven to be a great speaker full of pride in his country having written several books, poems & speaking all over the country to thousands with his theme of Americana & his love of country. I will not see you till the June 30th BBQ at John Dodd's & hope you're all there too.

Regards,

*Dan Henry*

## BRUCE SIEVERS JUNE SPEAKER

Bruce Sievers was born at Queen of Angels Hospital in Los Angeles to Darel and Mary Sievers, one of 5 children. His father held two jobs, one as a Lieutenant with the Los Angeles Police Department, and the other as a Brigadier General in the United States Army Reserve. Bruce was raised in Westchester, California, and now lives in Huntington Beach, California. He was an English major at California State University at Long Beach.

He trained with the Special Forces specializing in Army Intelligence. After his Honorable Discharge from the Army, Mr. Sievers hitchhiked more than 45 thousand miles through 42 states. During his trek he met and fell in love with this country and her people, especially small town America. He wrote of his experiences in a journal which has so far produced 7 books of poetry, three narrative albums of his poetry, and a screenplay of his journey. For the last 25 years he has traveled the country as a motivational speaker extolling the virtues, freedoms and benefits enjoyed by those of us fortunate enough to live here in America.

He has been honored for his dedication by President Ford, President Carter, President Reagan and President George Bush. The Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge bestowed upon him the George Washington Honor Medal, their highest award, not necessarily conferred every year. Toastmasters International also awarded him the Communication and Leadership Award. The Daughters of the American Revolution complimented him with the National Medal of Honor.

Senator Barry Goldwater took a keen interest in Mr. Sievers writing, and on several occasions Mr. Goldwater contacted the Librarian of Congress suggesting Mr. Sievers as a candidate for the position of Poet Laureate of the United States.

Mr. Sievers has been featured in People Magazine, the Washington Post, the Los Angeles Times, and more than 150 other publications across the country. Using his celebrity status within his community, he donates time and resources participating in numerous charitable functions, raising money for both local and national causes.

All this he has accomplished by his unabashed advocacy of a single theme: the joy of being an American. He truly is... An American in Love With His Country.

### E-MAILING NEWSLETTER

Due to computer problems that several of our members are having, we are going to try something new. Instead of e-mailing the newsletter out which has been a problem at times, we are going to ask all who have internet access to go to the Chapter Website(see first page of Newsletter). Arthur Koehler has been placing the newsletter on our site for some time now, and with the problems in e-mailing, this may be the solution we need.

Each month as the newsletter is produced a copy will be sent to Arthur. Once he has placed it on the Website, he will then contact your editor, and I will e-mail all of you to advise you that the newsletter has been posted on the site and you can go there to read it and print it out and if you wish, e-mail your friends and family so they can check it out.

There will still be those members who do not have computers or access to the web. There will also be those who have bad e-mails and have not informed us that it has changed and given us the new one. These members will receive a hard copy in the mail. We will request that any changes or new e-mails be supplied so that we can keep our postage and printing costs down.

In this case you can have internet access, but do

not need to have e-mail to be able to view our newsletter. We ask for your indulgence and cooperation as we try to serve you the members and yet try to keep our costs down.

Please e-mail your editor at [jblauer@pacbell.net](mailto:jblauer@pacbell.net) if you have a new e-mail and we will notify you if we are unable to e-mail you. Thank You.

### MAY MEETING

As noted by President Henry in his Message, the presentation by Shauna Fleming was one not to miss. As you will see from the Photo Album section of the newsletter, we not only presented her with a Certificate of Appreciation, which goes to all our speakers, but we also gave her a check for \$100 to help with costs and the the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal and Certificate and the book 1776. You also may see a new commercial where they have teamed up with General Motors to help in her "Thanks A Million" Project. She has put a small book together on how this project came about and its growth over the last several years and included some of the letters written to our service people. The money from these books assist in paying for postage and mailing costs. Those in attendance bought all she had brought with her and she was kind enough to donate one for our raffle.

President Henry also presented Larry Magerkurth with the Bronze Baron Von Steuben Color Guard Medal. For those who may not be aware, it was Larry who came up with the Lee's Legion uniform for our chapter as well as our Lee's Legion Flag. Congratulations Larry!!

### MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES

As Memorial Day approaches, many of you will be attending ceremonies at your local cemeteries. There are many throughout Orange County and one cannot

make all.

On Friday May 25, Compatriot Jim Blauer attended the service held at his Alma Mater, Newport Harbor High School. Wearing his Lee's Legion uniform Jim was once again asked to sing the National Anthem.

Your chapter will once again be participating in the Old Santa Ana Cemetery Tri-Cities ceremony at the Civil War Monument off Santa Clara. We usually have a very good turnout at this event. If you can not make this one, but are able to make another one, please notify your Activity Chairman Jim Blauer at [jblauer@pacbell.net](mailto:jblauer@pacbell.net), so that he can make note of your participation in the monthly activity report.

The Tri-Cities ceremonies begin at 10am. They start with the presentation of Colors from the various veteran, hereditary and fraternal organizations. Chairs are available for seating, so get there early for a good seat. They usually have the Young Marines do a Flag Folding Ceremony and a laying of wreaths by the various groups in attendance.

#### INDEPENDENCE DAY BALL

On June 9th the annual Independence Day Ball will be held. Yes, it's early this year. It begins at 6:30pm and goes till around 11:30pm. It will be at the Norwalk Masonic Lodge, 12345 Rosecrans Ave., Norwalk. Donations of \$30 per person. There will be an early bird discount of \$5.00 if you get your reservation in by May 10. Proceeds benefit the restoration of Montpelier, the home of President James Madison. Colonial attire is welcome but not required. Instruction will be provided for all the dances. Dinner will be pot luck. They suggest you bring your own dishes and silverware unless you don't mind getting stuck

using paper plates and plastic utensils. Contact Dana Parker at 714-761-0233. or e-mail at [jazzlover01@juno.com](mailto:jazzlover01@juno.com). Checks can be sent to Dana at 5408 Vista Fortuna, Cypress, CA 90630. They ask that you include your e-mail address with your check.

#### FOURTH ANNUAL BARBECUE

The Fourth Annual Orange County SAR Barbecue and Potluck will take place on Saturday June 30 from noon to 4pm at the home of John and Karen Dodd. Information has been attached on how to get to John & Karen's and a RSVP Reservation form as well. You may fax or e-mail John with your reservation and what you will be bringing.

Here you can enjoy the fellowship of your fellow Compatriots from around the southland from various chapters.

If you have not been to one of our Barbecues, you are encouraged to come and join the fun.

See you there.

#### ORANGE COUNTY FAIR

The Orange County Fair will run from Friday July 13 through Sunday August 5th. They are closed Mondays. There are 2 shifts per day. The morning shift runs from 12Noon to 5pm and the night shift runs from 5pm to 11pm on Tues- Friday. On Saturday and Sunday they begin at 10am. They have a special day on July 17th they will be open at 9am.

From the list given your editor, which is four pages long, the current roster shows South Coast has SAR staffing for evening July 17, evening July 19, Morning July 20, Evening July 22, Evening July 25, Morning July 28, Morning & Evening July 31, Morning August 1st and Evening August 5th. These may fill up with SAR from the South Coast Chapter, so you need to notify your editor what days and time

you desire. Once President Henry returns from his trip, your editor will advise him of which days and times our members have requested.

Some of you may not have your schedules that far in advance. Not to worry, it can be done as we get closer to the dates of the Fair. Even your editor has to wait until the week before as he does not have his work schedule until then.

#### JULY 4TH PARADE

Our entry has been sent in to the pageant officials and we are awaiting the information on our 20th year in the Huntington Beach July 4th Parade. If you are interested in walking or riding in this parade do contact Parade Chairman Jim Blauer so that he can mail you copies of the information.

This is the largest July 4th Celebration West of the Mississippi River with 300,000 to 500,000 people lining the streets and sitting on rooftops to view this parade.

You do not have to have a uniform. Something comfortable in a red, white and blue motif should be fine. Come on out and have some fun while celebrating our nation's birthday.

#### FLAG FOLDING CEREMONY

Each year when we attend the service held at the Old Santa Ana cemetery, the Young Marines perform a Flag Folding Ceremony. There are 13 folds. Though some may say, well that is for the original 13 colonies, that is not the reason. Each fold has a specific meaning.

The 1st fold of the Flag is the symbol of life.

The 2nd fold is the symbol of the belief in eternal life.

The 3rd fold is made in honor and remembrance of the veterans departing the ranks who gave a portion of their lives for the defense of the country

to attain peace throughout the world.

The 4th fold represents the weaker nature, for as American Citizens trusting in God, it is to Him we turn in times of peace as well as in the time of war for His divine guidance.

The 5th fold is a tribute to the country, for in the words of Stephen Decatur, "Our Country, in dealing with other countries, may she always be right; but it is still our country, right or wrong".

The 6th fold is for where People's hearts lie. It is with their heart that they "Pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation, under God, indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all.

The 7th fold is a tribute to its Armed Forces, for it is through the Armed Forces that they protect their country and their Flag against all enemies, whether they be found within or without the boundaries of their republic.

The 8th fold is a tribute to the one who entered into the Valley of the Shadow of death, that we might see the light of day.

The 9th fold is a tribute to womanhood, and mothers. For it has been through their faith, their love, loyalty and devotion that the character of the men and women who have made this country great has been molded.

The 10th fold is a tribute to the father, for he, too, has given his sons and daughters for the defense of their country since they were first born.

The 11th fold represents the lower portion of the seal of King David and King Solomon and glorifies in the Hebrew's eyes, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

The 12th fold represents an emblem of eternity and glorifies, in the Christian's eyes, God the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit.

The 13th fold, or when the Flag is completely

folded, the stars are uppermost reminding them of their nation's motto, "In God We Trust".

After the Flag is folded and tucked in, it takes the appearance of a cocked hat, ever reminding us of the soldiers who served under General George Washington, and the sailors and Marines who served under Captain John Paul Jones, who were followed by their comrades and shipmates in the Armed Forces of the United States, preserving for them the rights, privileges and freedoms they enjoy today.

There are some traditions and ways of doing things that have deep meaning. In the future, you'll see flags folded and now you will know why.

#### THE FIRST STARS & STRIPES

There may never be any proof as to who made the first American Flag, but there are two main contenders who have been debated by historians as the most likely.

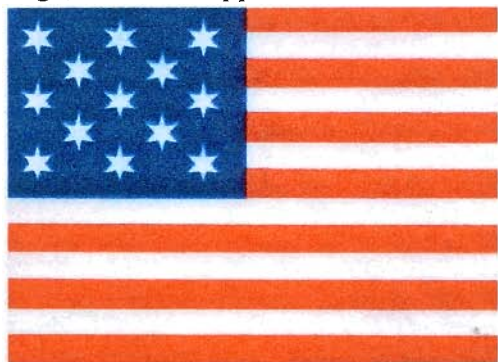
The first is Francis Hopkinson, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence(NJ), who served on many committees. On March 25,1780 while serving as Treasurer of Loans, was asked to serve on a committee to create the Seal of the United States. Two weeks later he submitted a letter to the Continental Admiralty Board. His letter states that he designed the American Flag, Continental currency, a seal for the Admiralty Board and the Great Seal of the United States. He stated that though he made these designs free of charge, he would appreciate a "cask of wine" from

the government as a token of gratitude. It should be noted that all stars by Hopkinson were six pointed. Though the Admiralty saw this as a reasonable request, when sent to Congress for action, his request was never approved, even after several subsequent submittals.

The other contender is Betsy Ross. Elizabeth Griscom had married John Ross an upholsterer and being a good seamstress work in his business. She is also known to have made Flags for the Pennsylvania Navy.

As told to her grandson William Canby, she being 84 and he being 11 at the time, a committee of George Washington, Robert Morris and George Ross came to her and requested she make a Flag as sketched out by Washington. She saw no problem with the design, but suggested that instead of 6 pointed stars they use 5 pointed stars as they could be done with one snip of the scissors. Affidavits from a sister and niece were obtained in the late 1800s when people questioned the story.

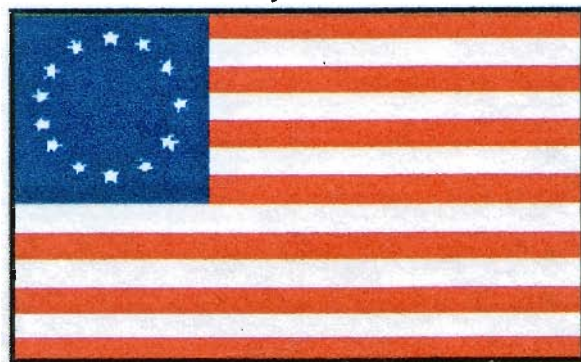
There are those who you will find on either side of this debate. It should be noted that only 5 pointed stars were used on the American Flag, where Hopkinson used six pointed stars as those that were in his family crest. So, why would he change his design. George Ross was the brother of John Ross, so he knew of Betsy's talent as a seamstress and when consulted would have suggested her to General Washington. The Committee was in Philadelphia at the time when they could have approached Betsy Ross. You decide for yourself.\*\*\*



At left is the Francis Hopkinson Flag.

At right is the Betsy Ross Flag.

Who do you think created the first American Flag?



# Photo Album

June 2007



Members and guests came out for the camaraderie and Presentation by Shauna Fleming on her "Thanks A Million" Project. To date she has collected over 3 Million letters and cards for our service men & women. Her book about this project and some of the letters was available for purchase.



Prizes for the Ben Franklin Drawing were in abundance at our May Meeting. Printer, beer, Fudge Brownies, books, and other patriotic items were made available by members.

Dan Henry presents Larry Magerkurth with the Von Steuben Bronze Color Guard Medal.

Below are those schools who will receive our JROTC Medal and Certificate that is presented to deserving Cadets here in Orange County.



# Photo Album

June 2007-2



Shauna Fleming gave an inspiring presentation on her "Thanks A Million Project" that she started at age 13. With the help of her high school and family she has delivered over three million letters to our service personnel.



Above left, she received a Certificate of Appreciation. Above right, she received a check for \$100 to help with expenses. Below she is presented the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal and Certificate and the book **1776**.



The Orange County Chapter, California Society,  
Sons of the American Revolution  
Invites you to attend the

## **Fourth Annual Summer Barbeque and Potluck**

When: Saturday, June 30, 2007  
noon to 4:00 p.m.

Where: home of John & Karen Dodd, "Rancho Rosa"  
Directions on reverse (Yahoo & Mapquest are wrong as to house location, and you can't get on Highcliff from Newport) Park on Highcliff, unless you need assistance walking distances. If so, pull in the gates and park inside.

Why: To enjoy the fellowship and camaraderie of your fellow compatriots from around the Southland and get to know each other better.

The Orange County Chapter will supply the main course (burgers, ribs and smoked turkey), as well as chips, salsa & munchies. You bring either a salad, side dish or dessert, and your favorite beverage. Let us know which using the attached form.

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John & Karen Dodd  
10072 Highcliff Dr.  
Santa Ana, CA 92705  
714-602-2132

Thomas guide page 800, G5  
corner of Highcliff & Miramar Circle  
GPS N 15.734' W 120 14.948'

From corner of Cowan Heights Drive and Newport Blvd., go up the hill .3 mile and turn left on Shadyridge, turn left (only way you can go); go up the hill .3 mile then turn left on Deerhill and go up the hill; go .1 mile and turn right on Brier Lane (only way you can go); go .3 mile and turn left (not right as Yahoo and Mapquest note) on Highcliff; go past 3 driveways on the left and turn left and go up Miramar Circle, then turn left through the first gate into the driveway.

#### **To Get to Cowan Heights Drive**

- 1) From 55 freeway, get off at 17<sup>th</sup> Street, go east to Newport Blvd., turn left (north) up the hill to Cowan Heights Drive then turn right
  - 2) From Los Angeles, take 5 Freeway south to 22 freeway, go east to 55 north, then immediately off at Chapman, go east to Newport Blvd. (through El Modena and then up and over the hill), turn right (south) up and over the hill to Cowan Heights Drive and turn left. Alternatively, take 22 to 55 south and get off at 17<sup>th</sup> Street and follow (1) above, which avoids crowded Chapman Ave.
  - 3) From "Inland Empire" take 91 to 55 south and then follow (2) **or** get on 241 Toll Road off the 91 freeway and get off at Chapman, turn right (west) on Chapman and go to Newport Blvd., then turn left (south) to Cowan Heights Drive and turn left
  - 4) From South Orange County, take 5 to 55 and then follow (2) **or** get off at Jamboree in Tustin, go north to Canyon View, turn left at the Peters Canyon Regional Park sign, go .7 miles to Newport Blvd., turn left and go 1.3 miles to Cowan Heights Drive and turn left.
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Orange County Chapter  
Sons of the American Revolution  
Summer 2007

RSVP form

We will attend the Orange County S.A.R. Summer Barbeque.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(name(s))

\_\_\_\_\_  
(chapter)

\_\_\_\_\_ (number attending)

We will bring a            salad            \_\_\_\_\_

   side dish            \_\_\_\_\_

   desert                \_\_\_\_\_

(feel free to identify more specifically!)

Fax this back to John at 714-731-0833  
(or if you are getting this by email, email back to  
[JohnLDodd@earthlink.net](mailto:JohnLDodd@earthlink.net))

Thanks!

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